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PAINTING. By W. A. Sinclair.—NOWADAYS. By Lord Dunsany. Boston: The Four Seas Company.

These two attractively printed little volumes are issued in the Seven Arts Series and deal with the sister arts of painting and poetry. Mr. Sinclair declares that there never was "a picture with the taint of pessimism in it," for painting is "the praise of perfection"; and Lord Dunsany in like manner asserts that to be a poet is "to see beauty in all its forms and manifestations, to feel ugliness like a pain, to resent the wrongs of others as bitterly as one's own, . . . to hear at moments the clear voice of God."

A TREASURY OF WAR POETRY. Second Series. Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by George Herbert Clarke. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company.

In his admirable Introduction Professor Clarke says: "The phrase 'War poetry' is a convenient one, but war poetry, after all, may be as broadly comprehensive in its insights and occasions as poetry which has no relation to war. If it be worthy, it is the finely wrought record of a sympathetic reaction to the enkindling heroisms of war, or of an antipathetic reaction to its sorrows, its brutalities, and its uglinesses." Nor, he continues, is it an absolute requirement that war poetry be written by those only who have been in the thick of the fight. Actual experience in war may even dull and blunt the poet's mind. Two points of difference Professor Clarke sees between the militant and the non-militant war poet: The fighting poet seems seldom to display a spirit of personal hatred toward an enemy, but apparently reserves his hatred for the impersonal Wrong for whose sake the enemy fights; and again the poet at the front, unless he is a determined realist, often turns away from the attempt to represent actual warfare, and tries instead to visualize some emotional antidote. His ultimate desire as a poet is to develop and express (even though indirectly) a poet's philosophy of war.

The collection is comprehensive, well arranged, and made with good taste and critical judgment. The two volumes form a valuable war anthology which should find a place in every library.